is to constitute a committee comprising of the representatives of Producers' Associations, Traders' Associations, Forward Marketing Commission and Financial Institutions to consider the various recommendations of the report including those dealing with the location, structure, design and infrastructure and by laws of the proposed Tea futures exchange. Tea Board is now in the process of constituting a Task Force to look into the matter.

Export of groundnut

†4442. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of groundnut exported during 1998-99 and 1999-2000;

(b) whether the export has increased;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken to export more and more to earn foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (c) The total quantity and value of groundnut exported during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 is as follows :—

Year	Quantity (MT)	Value (Rs.crores)
1998-99 (Prov.)	55,574	138.48
April-June 99 (Prov.)	30,348	72.17

(Source : DGCI & S. Calcutta)

(d) Some of the steps taken to enchance exports of groundnut include sending delegations abroad, participating in International trade fairs, inviting potential buyers and providing financial assistance to exporters for improving quality, packaging, brand promotion of products, conducting market surveys and accredition of laboratories for carrying out tests for affloatoxin in groundnut.

† Original Notice of the Question was received in Hindi.